

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 98,375-C)

PATENT 3303

In the A	pplication of:	. )
N	Aehta et al.	}
Serial N	o.: 09/701,979	) Group Art Unit: 1642 ) Luca
Filed:	June 2, 1999	) Examiner: B. Brumbach
	METHOD FOR STAINING BIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS BY COMBINING UNSTABLE	)
	REAGENTS ON A MICROSCOPIC SLIDE	)

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**REPLY TO AUGUST 5, 2002 OFFICIAL ACTION** 

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## IN THE ABSTRACT

Please insert the following Abstract to the application as a new page 25 following the last application claim:

## **Abstract**

The present invention relates to automated methods for staining biological materials on a slide comprising the use of component histochemical solutions mixed directly on a biological sample of interest by the steps of providing at least two stable solutions that together form an unstable staining solution, sequentially delivering the stable solutions to a biological sample of interest on a surface, and mixing the stable solutions directly on the biological material of interest to effectuate staining of the materials.

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claim 3 from the application without prejudice.